HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE PRECINCT MEETING September 14, 2011

Present Chuck Rage, Chairman & Commissioner Maureen Buckley, Commissioner Gary Kubik, Commissioner Steve LaBranche, Treasurer

Chairman Rage called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Rage introduced the members of the Board.

Entertainment

Glen French, Entertainment Coordinator, said the entertainment is complete for the season. There were approximately 80 shows. There were some cancellations due to weather. There were some issues. The electric service was inadequate, but they were able to work around that. Load in was difficult, but accomplished. Parking was limited, but thanks go to the Chamber and Park Patrol for helping on this issue. The temporary stage worked well.

Mr. French thanked the Village District for the trust put in him. He also thanked everyone who assisted in making this a great season. Mr. French said it is now time to start thinking about what everyone wants for next year. Mr. French said a request should be submitted to the Division of Parks which would include all the activities planned.

Chairman Rage said he had spoken to the new Director from the State while taking a tour with Senator Stiles, John Nyhan and Bob Preston. Chairman Rage said he explained about the different events done at the beach and that they bring revenue to the State and that fees should not have to be paid. There is going to be some kind of Memorandum of Understanding with the State.

Mr. French congratulated the Chamber of Commerce on the success of the Seafood Festival. The Commissioners thanked Mr. French for all his work this year.

Beautification

Linda Gebhart said Hurricane Irene did some damage to the flowers. The committee has been doing lots of planting and damage repair. The committee is working with the Grandmaisons on obtaining a stone for the plaque to be installed near the Ashworth. The Grandmaisons will give a donation to the Beautification Committee.

Ms. Gebhart thanked Richard Reniere for his help with weeding.

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Ms. Gebhart said there is going to be an art reception for Jan Meads who took pictures of the 2010 fire. She will have a showing at the Town Hall on Friday, September 16th, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This is in honor of all first responders.

Mr. Reniere asked if the graffiti was successfully removed at the beach. Ms. Gebhart said the State did power washing, but markings are still visible. Ms. Gebhart said she believes the State is going to hire a professional company to remove the rest of the markings.

Old Business

Commissioner Kubik said he would recommend taking the banners down for winter and putting them back up in the spring. Weather causes a lot of damage to the banners.

Moved by Commissioner Kubik, seconded by Chairman Rage, to remove the banners for winter and replace them in the spring.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Rage said there will be a Business Advisory meeting for advertising and promotion on November 8th at 2:00 p.m. Business owners who are interested in being included should contact Chairman Rage at rages@comcast.net or at 926-3364. The Chamber and Hampton Beach Area Commission will be included.

New Business

Commissioner Buckley said Michael Roy has decided to leave the Hampton Beach Area Commission. Commissioner Buckley said she would like to appoint Chairman Rage to that position.

Moved by Commissioner Buckley, seconded by Commissioner Kubik, to appoint Chairman Rage to the position vacated by Michael Roy on the Hampton Beach Area Commission.

Vote: 2-0-1 (Rage). Motion passed.

Chairman Rage said at the July meeting it was stated that there was no venue for the Fall Festival. He said it appeared that a private citizen has decided to run this festival. Chairman Rage emphasized that this is not Precinct sponsored.

Commissioner Kubik said he did not want the festival to be cancelled. If it is cancelled, it will never come back. Commissioner Kubik said June White called him regarding the festival and he referred her to John Kane. Commissioner Buckley emphasized that the festival was never officially sanctioned. Commissioner Kubik noted that there is a fireworks display scheduled for that weekend.

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Chairman Rage said he was told someone had asked to pull a permit for the festival and he assumed that person was doing it themselves.

June White came forward. Ms. White said at the July meeting she had asked if the festival had been cancelled and the Board said no. Ms. White said she asked John Kane if plans were to go forward and he said as far as he knew they were moving forward. Ms. White said she had received nine applications for the festival so far. Chairman Rage said Ms. White could not go forward with this without the approval of the Board. Commissioner Buckley said she could not support going having the festival.

Moved by Commissioner Buckley, seconded by Chairman Rage, to not hold the Fall Festival for 2011.

Vote: 2-1 (Kubik). Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Buckley, seconded by Commissioner Kubik, to approve the Minutes of August 10, 2011.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Michael Pierce, Selectman, came forward. He said the Board of Selectmen has been working on the sandwich board problem. A plan has been formulated and it is hoped it will be successful.

Mr. Pierce discussed the Memorandum of Understanding the Town is trying to work out with the State and urged the Commissioners to give their input to the Town.

Ed St. Pierre, Ocean Blvd., came forward. Mr. St. Pierre gave background on the Grandmaison project. Mr. St. Pierre said he felt the graffiti needs to be sandblasted. Mr. St. Pierre said he thinks Ken Murphy from the State would be a good contact person for the Precinct.

Mr. St. Pierre said he is spearheading a movement to keep Fred Welch as Town Manager. If anyone wishes to support this, contact Mr. St. Pierre at keepfw@aol.com or 926-1116.

Mr. Pierce said he was not allowed to comment on this because it is a personnel issue. Nothing will be decided until Mr. Welch returns from vacation.

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Commissioner Buckley asked if there were definite reasons for not renewing Mr. Welch's contract due to job performance. Mr. Pierce said yes, that was a significant part of the decision.

Mr. Reniere asked about ordinances concerning political signs being posted. He said there are signs for a presidential candidate on 101. Mr. Pierce said he would look into this.

Closing Comments

Commissioner Kubik asked if the Board wished to have the fireworks display on Columbus Day weekend. The consensus of the Board was to have the fireworks.

Moved by Chairman Rage, seconded by Commissioner Kubik, to run the Columbus Day weekend fireworks display.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice Secretary